

was first published and became an instant success. This became the first of his many future capital ventures. Subsequently, in 1945 Mr. Johnson launched his most successful magazine *Ebony*, which sold 25,000, making it the largest circulated Black magazine of the time. Today, with its 60 year history, *Ebony* is still a success with a circulation of 1.6 million.

In 1951, 10 years after the start of *Ebony*, Mr. Johnson started *Jet* magazine, which became the number one Black newsweekly. Subsequently, he invested in book publishing and *Fashion Fair Cosmetics*, which was designed to fit the needs of African American women by offering a complete line of high-quality beauty and skin care products for a wide variety of skin tones. Moreover, he has invested in several radio stations, and has majority ownership in the company that inspired it all, *Supreme Liberty Life Insurance*.

The success of his magazines and other business endeavors were supported by Johnson's objective to show "not only to the Negroes, but also white people that Negroes got married, had beauty contests, gave parties, ran successful businesses, and do all the other normal things of life." His publications became a vehicle for his civil rights activism. Mr. Johnson purposefully presented positive imagery of blacks as professionals, movie stars, activists, and more, to combat the many negative stereotypes that permeated throughout the collective conscience of this country, which was overwhelmingly manifested through mainstream media. *Ebony* magazine highlighted the success and achievements of African Americans, taking a more glamorized perspective of Black America, while *Jet* magazine focused on the politics, entertainment, business, and sports. President Clinton, observed that Mr. Johnson "gave African-Americans a voice and a face, in his words, 'a new sense of somebody-ness,' of who they were and what they could do, at a time when they were virtually invisible in mainstream American culture."

John Johnson made history when he published the unedited and notorious 1955 pictures of the mutilated body of 14 year old murder victim Emmett Till, who was slain in Mississippi for allegedly whistling at a white girl. Johnson published the pictures to show the world the cruel reality of Jim Crow, and the violent results of legal segregation. As a result, the images of Emmett Till became the catalyst that sparked the flame that fueled the Civil Rights Movement. It was the pictures that Mr. Johnson published that inspired Rosa Parks to refuse to acquiesce and relinquish her seat to a white man, which in turn led to the kindling of the Civil Rights Movement.

As a result of Johnson's success, both in his publishing and activism, he has received many accolades and awards. In 1982 he was the first African American ever to be on *Forbes* Magazine's 400 Richest Americans. He was a member of the Publishing Hall of Fame, the National Business Hall of Fame, the Advertising Hall of Fame and the Arkansas Business Hall of Fame. He also received the Spingarn Medal, the highest honor from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In addition, he received the Salute to Greatness Award, the highest award for the Martin Luther King Jr. center for Non-violent Social Change. In 1972 he was named

Publisher of the Year by the Magazine Publishers Association. Lastly in 1995 he was awarded America's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Clinton.

As a visionary, entrepreneur, philanthropist, and civil rights activist, Mr. Johnson's life has become one of the greatest "American dream" success stories of all time. Through his publications and other media ventures, Johnson has managed to transform the mainstream image and self-image of African Americans throughout the world. The legacy Mr. Johnson leaves is one of constant challenge. Throughout his life he has challenged and overcome the validity of old norms and has presented new ones that have helped to change both the face of African-Americans, as well as the face of our Nation.

HONORING THE BLOOMSBURG HOSPITAL IN COLUMBIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AS IT CELEBRATES ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Bloomsburg Hospital in Columbia County, Pennsylvania, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary of serving citizens in that region of the Nation. I also ask that you join me in recognizing Regis P. Cabonor, CEO of Bloomsburg Hospital, and Dr. John A. Scerbo, Chairman of the Board of Directors.

The first and only locally owned and operated hospital in the area, Bloomsburg Hospital's highly trained staff of physicians and technologists offer state of the art diagnostic services, and an array of women's health and psychiatric services.

Known as "The Baby Hospital," the facility has been delivering about 600 infants annually for the past several years. Special birthing suites and knowledgeable nurses ensure that families receive a warm and caring experience at this special time in their lives.

Accredited by the American College of Radiology, the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the American Association of Blood Banks, the College of American Pathologists, the hospital is licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Its mission is to "promote, restore and maintain health" through fully integrated health care systems and services including in-patient care, in-patient and out-patient rehabilitation and out-patient surgery.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Bloomsburg Hospital on the occasion of this milestone event. The quality of life in the Bloomsburg area is clearly better because of the fine and caring work performed by the dedicated professionals at this institution.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR. EMORY BUSH "E.B." PEEBLES, JR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2005

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, Mobile County and indeed the entire state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory.

Mr. Emory Bush "E.B." Peebles, Jr., was a devoted family man and dedicated community leader throughout his life.

A graduate of Murphy High School in Mobile, Alabama, Mr. Peebles received his diploma from the Military College of South Carolina (The Citadel) in 1939. Following his graduation, he joined the United States Army Reserve with the rank of second lieutenant, and was employed by the Southern Industries Corporation. In June, 1941, he was called to active duty as a member of the United States Army and served with distinction during World War II as a member of the 31st Infantry ("Dixie") Division of the Pacific Theater. For his service, he was awarded both the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star, and he was promoted to the rank of major prior to his discharge in December, 1945.

Following his discharge, he was employed by Ryan Stevedoring in Mobile, and continued to work with that corporation for the next four decades. He retired from the new Ryan-Walsh Stevedoring Company in 1985 as chairman of the business.

In the midst of his intense professional schedule, Mr. Peebles also found time to serve in many community organizations and on several boards of directors. He served on the boards of several area businesses and financial institutions, including the Mobile Gas Service Corporation and the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company. During the mid-1960s, he served as president of the America's Junior Miss Pageant, and in 1969 served as the president of the Mobile Carnival Association. He also helped to make Mobile's Senior Bowl college football all-star game one of the preeminent events in all of college athletics, and served as president of that organization. He was also actively involved in the Mobile Touchdown Club and the Mobile Area Arts and Sports Association, and served as president of the University of South Alabama's Jaguar Club. In 1996, he was named "Mobilian of the Year."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout South Alabama. Mr. Peebles will be deeply missed by his family—his lovely wife, Barbara Cowen Peebles; his children, E.B. Peebles, III, Laura P. Rutherford, and John D. Peebles; his stepchildren, Alley C. Butler and Douglas L. Ford; and by his seven grandchildren and great-grandchildren—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.